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SUBJECT Possible Appointment of Victor Casagrandi  
to Cabinet Post

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(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

It has been reported that some Peruvian Government officials and labor leaders, with whom source has talked recently, believe that Victor A. Casagrandi, who resigned his position as Director General of Labor to run for Senator from the Department of Loreto, will replace General Armando Artola as Minister of Labor sometime after the September elections, because of the latter's desire to return to active military service. Other government officials, particularly congressmen, believe that Casagrandi is being groomed for the post of Minister of Government and Police, replacing Ricardo de la Puente y Ganoza. De la Puente for the past six months has continued to cause friction between government and labor, and has made himself many enemies among influential labor leaders because of his desire to curtail union activities by police control.

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Casagrandi's election is assured. Casagrandi re-  
tains his influence in the Ministry of Labor through Dr. Santiago Salinas, his  
brother-in-law, who has been temporarily appointed as Director General of Labor.  
It is thought that Salinas will probably be given a permanent appointment follow-  
ing the outcome of the September congressional by-elections.

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**Comment.** An official communique issued by the Minister of Labor, General Artola, on 10 March, announced that Casagrandi had offered his resignation, effective 8 March 1951. It had been rumored for some time before that he would resign in order to be eligible to run as Senator of the Department of Loreto. It is believed that Casagrandi's efficient labor management, and the great prestige and influence which he has gained among various labor organizations through the aid of Senator Juan P. Luna, have impressed President Odria and his political advisers and might lead to his appointment as a cabinet member.

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